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P 111202Z FEB 09
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3983
INFO RUEHRC/DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 000032

SIPDIS

USDA/FAS PASS TO STEVE FROGGETT, OES PASS TO DANIELLE WOOD,
EEB/TPP/MTAA/ABT PASS TO MARCELLA SZYMANSKI

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: EAGR ECON ETRD IS TBIO

SUBJECT: ICELAND RESPONSE: DEMARCHE ON LIABILITY AND
REDRESS UNDER THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

REF: STATE 11910

¶1. Per reftel cable, Post contacted the Ministry of Environment to determine whether Iceland would be sending a representative to the Group of the Friends of the Co-Chairs Concerning Liability and Redress in the Context of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety Meeting in Mexico City on February 23-27, 2009. Iceland has signed the Cartagena Protocol but has not deposited their instrument of ratification due to some legal complications for passage in the Parliament. Iceland has no intention of attending the Mexico City Meeting, and did not have any particular stance on U.S. issues raised. Iceland point of contact for the Convention on Biodiversity and Cartagena Protocol is: Mr. Sigurdur Armann Thrainsson of the Office of Policy and International Affairs at the Ministry of Environment.
van Voorst